

waveguides optically coupled to the second slab coupler for conveying higher order signals comprising at least some first order output signals, away from the second slab coupler.

18. An AWG according to claim 17, wherein the output waveguides are arranged so as to bend away from an area into which non-zero order output signals imaged by the second slab coupler, comprising at least some first order output signals, diverge from the second slab coupler.

REMARKS


Preliminary to examination of this application, please amend claims 9, 17 and 18 as set forth above. These claim amendments attend to minor formal matters, and are not related to issues of patentability. Support for the amendment to the claims can be found throughout the specification, Figures and claims as originally filed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing amendments introduces no new matter. Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment is thus in order and requested.

If there are any questions regarding the proposed amendments to the claims 9, 17 and 18, we invite the Examiner to call Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 30, 2001